

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Examiner's ruling regarding the restriction of claims has been duly noted. Accordingly, claims 7-31 have been canceled. One or more divisional applications will be filed at the appropriate time.

Reconsideration is requested of all rejections based on objections to the abstract:

A new abstract has been provided that properly reflects the content of the application.

The original title has been replaced by the title suggested by the examiner.

Reconsideration is requested of all rejections based on 35 U.S.C. 102:

Examiner has relied for this rejection on US 5,910,344 by Hasegawa et al., specifically Hasegawa's FIG. 3. By no stretch of even the most fertile imagination can said figure be said to resemble, broadly or in detail, any of the figures used to illustrate the present invention. However, examiner's reasons for rejection demonstrate how words, whose meanings we believe to be well known and widely agreed upon, can be given new and unexpected meanings. For example, by arguing that the top surface of a layer is also its edge.

The claims in question have now been amended so as to clearly distinguish between edges and top surfaces.

Appl. No. 10/816,040
Amdt. dated 02/19/2007
Reply to Office action of 02/02/2007

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SBA', written over a horizontal line.

Stephen B. Ackerman
Reg. No. 37761